

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kenji WATARI et al. Confirmation: 4696
Serial No.: 10/577,387 Art Unit: 1797
Filed: April 26, 2006 Examiner: D. Mellon
For: Hollow fiber membrane module, hollow fiber membrane module unit, and water treatment method

Supplemental (Third) IDS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 18, 2010

Sir:

Further to Applicants' RCE and IDS filed herein on February 2, 2010, Applicants Supplemental IDS of February 3, 2010, and the Submission of February 3, 2010, the following further information is provided to assist the Examiner.

The communication from a foreign patent office is a Notice of Allowance from the JPO, and it issued on or about January 5, 2010 in regards to JP Appln. No. 2004-539556. A copy of the JPO's Notice of Allowance is now available to Applicants' representative, and such copy in Japanese along with an English translation. These materials were touched on in prior discussions with the Examiner and are being provided as indicated in the earlier Supplemental (Second) IDS filed on February 3, 2010, and as stated in a February 16, 2010 conversation with the Examiner.

As acknowledged in said Supplemental (Second) IDS filed on February 3, 2010, the Examiner and Applicants' representative briefly the JP documents and as previously reported Applicants representative checked the EPO data base for family members of JP A-2001-205054, but no family members were listed. Meanwhile, a machine translation of the JP A-2001-205054 has been obtained, and is enclosed herewith. It is unknown at this time whether the machine translation is accurate or not.

Full Japanese text copies of JP 2001-205054, JP H07-275667A, JP H6-099038A, JP H 04-26886A, JP H03-242230A are enclosed to supplement the IDS filed herein on February 2, 2010.

The undersigned received an English translation relating to JP Patent (Granted) Publication H4-26886 and one relating to Japanese Unexamined Utility Model Application (first publication) No. H5-37328. A copy of each translation is enclosed.

Applicants hereby request any required extension of time not otherwise requested and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any omitted fee required to effect entry of this Amendment, including application processing, extension, extra claims, statutory disclaimer, issue, and publication fees, to Deposit Account No. 06-1135 with reference to Order No. 7412-88137.

Respectfully submitted,
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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